OIPE IAP95 JAN 22 2007 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of	)	
	)	
Patrick Miles et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 3731
	)	
App. Ser. No. 10/682,568	)	
	)	Examiner: Glenn Dawson
Filed: October 8, 2003	)	
	)	
For: Surgical Access System and Related Methods	)	

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 16, 2007:

Jonathan D. Spangler

Responsive Amendment

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 13, 2006 in the above-captioned application, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response which expired December 13, 2006, please amend the application as set forth below.

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